Freedom of Information Act 2000 & Environmental Information Regs. 2004

Reference Number: INF003797

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information regarding anti-social behaviour on Gillingham High Street, defined as the section from the Railway Street junction to the Mill Road junction, from 1 January 2023 to 30 April 2025:

1. The total number of complaints recorded by Medway Council about anti-social behaviour, specifically street drinking, public urination, or vandalism, on this section of Gillingham High Street, broken down by month and complaint type.

2. A list of actions taken by Medway Council in response to these complaints, limited to referrals to Kent Police, issuance of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) notices, or reviews of the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) for alcohol licensing.
Please provide the data in CSV format, with columns for date, complaint type, and action taken (if any), within 20 working days.

Response:

1. The total number of complaints recorded by Medway Council about anti-social behaviour, specifically street drinking, public urination, or vandalism, on this section of Gillingham High Street, broken down by month and complaint type.
One report from residents via a Ward Councillor in relation to drugs and alcohol usage. Report received in November 2024. Action taken: referred to Kent Police Beat Officers and pro-active joint patrols carried out in Gillingham High Street.

2. A list of actions taken by Medway Council in response to these complaints, limited to referrals to Kent Police, issuance of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) notices, or reviews of the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) for alcohol licensing.
Please provide the data in CSV format, with columns for date, complaint type, and action taken (if any), within 20 working days.
Medway Council has a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in operation relating to alcohol consumption and being in possession of an alcohol container in Gillingham High Street:

- ***If a person continues drinking, without reasonable excuse, intoxicating liquor in the restricted area when asked to stop by an authorised officer and/or***
- ***fails to surrender any intoxicating liquor in their possession when asked to do so by an authorised officer***

If you wish to receive further Official (unmarked) information in regards to this request or wish to submit a Freedom of Information Request please forward your Freedom of Information Requests via our website, please CLICK HERE to take you to the online form or Information Governance Team, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR.

a fixed penalty notice (FPN) can be issued.

Pubs, restaurants, and off licences do not form part of the PSPO.

Five alcohol PSPO warnings were issued during 2024.

I trust this information is to your satisfaction, however, if you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Information Governance Manager, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR., or email freedom@medway.gov.uk.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

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